Section 8:

Roy Wilkins

0-73 (Rev 10-9-75)

section (8)

MESSAGE RELAY

☒ CLEAR

☐ Immediate
☐ Urgent
☐ Niact
☒ PRIORITY

Date OCTOBER 12, 1976

Transmit in ☐ Plaintext ☐ Code Via Teletype the Attached Message

174 7256

From: Director, FBI

To: SACs: CHICAGO
NEW YORK

To: Legats:

To: RUEADWW/ ☐ The President ☐ The Vice President ☐ White House Situation Room
☐ Attn: ☐ Attn:

RUEBWJA/ ☐ Attorney General ☐ Deputy Attorney General
☐ Attn: Analysis and Evaluation Unit

RUEBWJA/ ☐ Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division

RUEBWJA/ ☒ Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division
☐ Attn: Internal Security Section ☒ Attn: General Crimes Section ATTN: [redacted]

b7c

RUEABND/ ☐ Drug Enforcement Administration

RUEBWJA/ ☐ Immigration and Naturalization Service

RUEBWJA/ ☐ U. S. Marshal's Service

RUEBDUA/ ☐ Department of the Air Force (AFOSI)

RUEACSI/ ☐ Department of the Army

RUEAIIA/ ☐ Director, CIA

RUEBJGA/ ☐ Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard

RUEKJCS/ ☐ Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

RHEGGTN/ ☐ Energy Research and Development Administration

RUEOGBA/ ☐ Federal Aviation Administration

Other than Listed ☐

RUEANAT/ ☐ National Aeronautics & Space Adm.

RUEOIAA/ ☐ National Security Agency (DIRNSA/NSOC (Attn: SOO))

RUEBARE/ ☐ Naval Investigative Service

RUEAUSA/ ☐ U. S. Postal Service (if Classified) (Use RUEVDFB if Unclassified)

RUEHSE/ ☒ U. S. Secret Service (PID)

RUEHC/ ☐ Secretary of State

RUEBJGA/ ☐ Department of Transportation Attn: Director of Security

RUEATRS/ ☐ Department of Treasury
☐ Attn: U. S. Customs
☐ Department of Treasury
☐ Attn. Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/11/84 BY SP2 BJ/JMS 203 304

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 12 1976
5:38 PM

TELETYPE UNIT

Classification: ☐ Top Secret ☐ Secret ☐ Confidential ☒ Unclassified

Foreign Liaison Unit
☐ Route through for review
☐ Cleared telephonically
with _____

Subject (Text begins below)

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; THREAT TO BOMB RESIDENCE OF ROY WILKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAACP, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, OCTOBER 9, 1976; BOMB THREATS

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep. AD Adm. ____
Dep. AD Inv. ____
Asst. Dir. ____
Admin. ____
Comp. Syst. ____
Ext. Affairs ____
Files & Com. ____
Gen. Inv. ____
Ident. ____
Inspection ____
Intell. ____
Laboratory ____
Legal Coun. ____
Plan. & Eval. ____
Spec. Inv. ____
Training ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director Sec'y ____

5 NOV 2 1976

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RJD 7/44

RJD 7/44

NFN

NFN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 09 1976

TELETYPE

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm. ____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv. ____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv. ____
Ext. Affairs ____
Fin. & Perf. ____
Gen. Inv. ____
Ident. ____
Intell. ____
Laboratory ____
Legal Coun. ____
Plan & Insp. ____
Rec. Mgmt. ____
Spec. Inv. ____
Training ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director Sec'y ____

CGOMMS 281945Z

PT NI NY

DE CG

P 091945Z OCT 76

FM CHICAGO (174-0)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

NEW YORK PRIORITY

BT

C L E A R

ROY WILKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAACP; BOMB THREAT-INFORMATION CONCERNING.

RE CHICAGO TELCALL TO NEW YORK, OCTOBER 9, [redacted]

ON OCTOBER 9, 1976, [redacted] BOMB AND ARSON SQUAD, [redacted] ADVISED b7C, [redacted] THAT HE HAD BEEN ADVISED BY [redacted]

[redacted]

THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A CALL AT APPROXIMATELY 11:55 A.M., [redacted] SAME DATE, FROM WHAT SOUNDED TO BE A WHITE MALE WHO SAID, "A BOMB HAD BEEN ACTIVATED AT THE RESIDENCE OF ROY WILKINS." UNKNOWN CALLER GAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION.

FBI RECORDS INDICATE ~~INDICES REFLECT ADDRESS OF~~ CHICAGO WILKINS RESIDES ~~AT~~ 147-15 VILLAGE ROAD, APARTMENT A, JAMAICA, NEW YORK.

~~NEW YORK AT JAMAICA, NEW YORK: WILL ADVISE APPROPRIATE NYPD OFFICIALS RE ABOVE THREAT.~~

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT JAMAICA, NEW YORK ADVISED.

U.S. ATTORNEY, CHICAGO AND U.S. SECRET SERVICE JAMAICA BEING ADVISED.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/19/94 BY SP4 [illegible]

NOTE TO SACS CHICAGO AND NEW YORK ONLY.

CHICAGO NOTIFY U.S. ATTORNEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 23, E 10, MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS. IN FUTURE, INSURE YOUR INITIAL COMMUNICATION TO FBIHQ REPORTING INCIDENT STATES WHETHER THIS HAS BEEN DONE OR IS BEING DONE. NOTE CORRECT CAPTION AND CHARACTER THIS MATTER.

NEW YORK, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, PROMPTLY NOTIFY U.S. SECRET SERVICE.

BT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 09 1976

TELETYPE

Asst. Dir. ____
Dep.A.D.-Adm. ____
Dep.A.D.-Inv. ____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv. ____
Ext. Affairs ____
Fin. & Pers. ____
Gen. Inv. ____
Ident. ____
Intell. ____
Laboratory ____
Legal Coun. ____
Plan & Insp. ____
Res. Mgmt. ____
Spec. Inv. ____
Training ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director Sec'y ____

CGO#63 2831945Z

PP NI NY

DE CG

P 291945Z OCT 76

FM CHICAGO (174-0)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

NEW YORK PRIORITY

BT

C L E A R

ROY WILKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAACP; BOMB THREAT-INFORMATION CONCERNING.

RE CHICAGO TELCALLS TO NEW YORK, OCTOBER 9, 1976.

[redacted] ADVISED THIS DATE THAT HE HAD BEEN ADVISED BY A [redacted]

THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A CALL AT APPROXIMATELY 11:55 A.M. THIS DATE FROM WHAT SOUNDED TO BE A WHITE MALE WHO SAID, "A BOMB HAS BEEN ACTIVATED AT THE RESIDENCE OF ROY WILKINS." UNKNOWN CALLER GAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION.

CHICAGO INDICES REFLECT ADDRESS OF WILKINS AS 147-15 [illegible] AGE ROAD, APARTMENT B, JAMAICA, NEW YORK.

NEW YORK AT JAMAICA, NEW YORK. WILL ADVISE APPROPRIATE LOCAL OFFICIALS RE ABOVE THREAT.

N 174-7256

REC 14

OCT 14 1976

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/79 BY [illegible]

FD-305 (Rev. 11-27-[redacted]

FBI

Date: 10/14/76

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Precedence)

To: Director, FBI

From: SAC, NEW YORK (174-NEW) (C)

ATTENTION:
[X] GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
[ ] CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
[X] CRIMINAL SECTION
[ ] INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

[redacted]

Subject: UNSUB; Anonymous Call With Threat To Bomb Residence, Roy Wilkens, 147-15 Village Road, Jamaica, Queens, NY, 10/9/76

NM ROY WILKINS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/7/84 BY SP2 [illegible]

243,304

ReCGtel, 10/9/76.

[ ] CR [ ] EL [ ] DIH [ ] CRA-64 [ ] PA [ ] PE [ ] PF [ ] E

[ ] DAMV [ ] DAMV-FR [ ] CAA [ ] AP [ ] IWFC [ ] CWAA [ ] FI

[ ] EID [X] Bomb Threats [ ] Extremist Matters [ ] White Hate [ ] Black

Summary of Complaint:

174-3257

// Referenced teletype advised NYO that [redacted] received a telephone call from an individual believed to be a white male, stating, "A bomb would be activated at the home of ROY WILKENS." The unknown caller furnished no additional information.

DE-37 ST-138 E-27 174-3-12253

[redacted] Bureau of ATF, NYC, and [redacted] were immediately advised.

INDICES: [ ] Negative [ ] See Summary

ACTION: UACB:

[X] No further action being taken and
[X] LHM enclosed
[X] FD-376 (Enc. to LHM)
[ ] LHM being submitted
[ ] Report being submitted
[ ] Preliminary investigation instituted
[ ] Limited investigation instituted
[ ] Investigation continuing

no documentation required 10-20-76

[X] Copy to: [X] USA EDNY
[X] Secret Service NYC
[X] ATF NYC

2d

1-4052

2- Bureau (Encls 4)
1- New York

17 OCT 16 1976

[redacted]

E236

Approved: 31976 Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] subsequently advised that a package containing meat was found at the front door of the WILKENS' residence. Mrs. WILKENS subsequently verified the meat order. [redacted]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New York, New York
October 14, 1976

Unknown Subject;
Anonymous Call With Threat
To Bomb Residence,
Roy Wilkens,
147-15 Village Road,
Jamaica, Queens, New York,
October 9, 1976

On October 9, 1976, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Chicago, Illinois, advised the New York (NY) Division that the [redacted] concerning a bomb threat at the residence of Roy Wilkens. The unidentified white male stated, "A bomb has been activated at the residence of Roy Wilkens." The unidentified caller gave no further information concerning the matter.

b7c

Investigation at Chicago reflected that Roy Wilkens resided at 147-15 Village Road, Apartment B, Jamaica, NY.

Investigation at New York City (NYC) revealed the residence of Roy Wilkens, 147-15 Village Road, Apartment B, Jamaica, Queens, NY, telephone number 380-0187.

[redacted] United States Secret Service, NY, [redacted] were immediately advised.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/17/94 BY SP6LB/alcms
243,304

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

NY-7256
~~NY-S-12253~~

ENCLOSURE

Unknown Subject (UNSUB);
Anonymous Call With Threat
To Bomb Residence, Roy Wilkens,
147-15 Village Road, Jamaica,
Queens, NY, October 9, 1976

At 4:05 PM, October 9, 1976, [redacted] b7c

[redacted] advised that the [redacted] had located a brown paper package containing meat at the front door of the Wilkens' residence. Mrs. Wilkens subsequently confirmed that she, Wilkens, had ordered a meat delivery. [redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)
90-1359-1

November 16, 1937

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL McMAHON

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum dated November 13, 1937, transmitting a photostatic copy of a letter to the Attorney General from Mr. Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York dated November 11, 1937, relative to an alleged violation of the Peonage Statute at Bailey, Arkansas.

This matter has been referred to the Little Rock, Arkansas Office of this Bureau for investigation, and you will be appropriately advised of all developments in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
NOV 16 1937
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

November 14, 1937

[redacted]

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto are copies of a letter dated November 11, 1937 received by the Attorney General from Mr. Ray Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, wherein it is stated that thirty negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Bailey, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns.

(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

You are requested to conduct a discreet investigation relative to Mr. Wilkins' allegations to determine whether a violation of the Peonage Statute is involved herein.

This matter should be placed in line for prompt investigative attention, and a report should be submitted to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

RE: [redacted]
[redacted], CONFIDENTIAL,
FELONY.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau file in the above entitled case indicates that this case is not receiving prompt investigative attention in your division.

This matter should be placed in line for early investigative attention and you should submit a report to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED 50-1359-2

JAN 6 1944

INDEXED

JAN 5 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 1689
Little Rock, Arkansas
January 13, 1956

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
ROY WILKINS; COMPLAINANT;
FCRA

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau communication of January 5, 1956 (50-1359), which instructs that this matter be given prompt investigative attention.

The failure to give this matter attention at an earlier date has been due to the fact that the agent to whom the case has been assigned has been unable to proceed with the investigation due to other matters which he has been handling elsewhere. This matter will be given attention at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

CLYDE FLETCHER,
Special Agent in Charge.

2 copies

50-1359-3

[redacted]

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

Re: [redacted]
[redacted], [redacted],
[redacted]

Dear Sir:

Under date of November 11, 1957, Mr. Ray Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, addressed a communication to the Attorney General, in which he advised that Negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a cotton plantation, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns. It is stated in this letter that the information has been relayed to Mr. Wilkins by way of Chicago, Illinois, and he urges an immediate investigation of this situation at Bailey.

For your information, several complaints have been received through the above named Association, one particularly in which I refer, is a complaint made by [redacted] Memphis, Tennessee, who, on July 11, 1957, addressed a letter to the Department of Justice, in Washington, complaining of the fact that three negro boys who were residents of Memphis, had been detained at Bailey, Arkansas, on a plantation of one [redacted]. For your complete information, I am forwarding a copy of this communication, together with the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Memphis, Tennessee, September 24, 1957, entitled [redacted], which sets forth an interview with [redacted] in the effort that the victims, [redacted] all of which are at that time residing in Chicago and New York City.

[redacted], of this office, conducted lengthy interviews with this writer, some being reflected in the report in connection with the above mentioned case and data [illegible] copy of which should be furnished for your information.

The letter has attached to its delivery to the Naval Station [illegible] this book, on November 8, 1957, in which time prosecution [illegible] in view of the fact that the Federal statute, in the [illegible] of the Federal Attorney, had not been violated.

It appears that there is a possibility that the [illegible] complained in Naval [illegible] information which is an outgrowth of the [illegible] and is in the [illegible]

Special Agent in Charge
San Diego, Calif.

January 17, 1941

[redacted]

The author is being referred to your office, with the request that Mr. Williams be interviewed and that full and complete information be obtained from him concerning the thirty persons, or at least a few of them, who are being held at Bailey, Arkansas, in order that the investigation may be brought to a logical conclusion. At the present time, appropriate handling is being made by agents of this office at Bailey, Arkansas, particularly [redacted]

It is further desired that you ascertain from Mr. Williams the sources of his information, in order that the complainants may be interviewed.

Very truly yours,

CHAPMAN PINCHER,
Special Agent in Charge.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Little Rock, Ark. N.Y. [redacted]

NEW YORK CITY	2/1/38	1/17, 28, 31/38	[redacted]
CIVIL RIGHTS; ROY WILKINS - COMPLAINANT			VIOLATION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Roy Wilkins, National Association for Advancement of Colored People, advised his information relative to alleged violation of Peonage Statute at Bailey, Arkansas obtained from his Association's representative in Chicago and no information about persons held yet received.

R. U. G.

REFERENCE: Letter from Little Rock Office dated January 17, 1938.

DETAILS: AT NEW YORK CITY

ROY WILKINS, (colored), Assistant Secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, was interviewed by the writer relative to the [illegible] letter addressed to the Attorney General under date of November 11, 1937, in which he advised that thirty negroes were being held, virtually as slaves, in a [illegible] at Bailey, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns. He [illegible] indicated in his letter that the information had been relayed to him [illegible] Chicago, Ill. [illegible]

[illegible]	30 1339 1 4	FEB 7
[illegible]	FEB - 1 A.M.	

At the time of the writer's interview with Mr. Wilkins, he stated that the only information he had relative to the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute at Bailey, Arkansas, was contained in a telegram addressed to Attorney CHARLES H. HOUSTON, of the Association, at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, from GEORGE A. PLAKEY, the Chicago representative of the Association. He exhibited the telegram to the writer which is being set forth at this point for ready reference:

November 10, 1937

Attorney Charles H. Houston,
69 Fifth Avenue
New York City

[redacted] TOGETHER WITH THIRTY OTHER NEGROES SOLD AND HELD SLAVES IN STOCKADE AT BAILEY ARKANSAS FORCED AT POINT OF GUNS HAVE FEDERAL OFFICERS INVESTIGATE AT ONCE EXTREME CAUTION OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO PROTECT PRISONERS LIVES [redacted]

(signed) George A. Plakey
Chicago Branch N.A.A.C.P.,
Room 812, 345 State St.,
Chicago, Ill.

As indicated in the above mentioned communication to the Attorney General, Wilkins stated that he had no information as to the names of the negroes allegedly held in peonage aside from the [redacted] mentioned in the telegram, and he suggested that agents of the Bureau interview George A. Plakey at Chicago, Illinois for more detailed information.

He indicated at this time that he had no information about the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute involving negroes name[redacted] from Memphis, Tenn., in Desha County at Mellwood, Arkansas, [redacted] 1937, as reflected in the reports of Special Agent [redacted], dated at Little Rock, Arkansas, dated December 1, 1937, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at Memphis, Tenn., September 24, 1937.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] interviewed by agents of the Little Rock Office at [redacted] with reference to this matter.

[redacted]

DEVELOPED LEADS:

CHICAGO OFFICE:

At Chicago, Ill. - Will interview GEORGE A. HALLEY, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Room 213, 348 South State Street, for detailed information relative to the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute, as contained in his telegram to the New York office of the Association, dated November 10, 1937, as set out in the body of this report.

The names and addresses of the Negroes allegedly held, together with the details surrounding their arrest, should be obtained.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

March 4, 1938

[redacted]

50-1359

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

RE: [redacted];
BUT BILLETS - COMPLAINANT;
PROBE.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau file in the above entitled case indicates that this case is not receiving prompt investigative attention in your division.

This matter should be placed in line for early investigative attention and you should submit a report to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

50-1359-5

MAR 9 1938 P.M.

Postal Telegraph

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

FBI LITTLE ROCK, ARK. MAY 7, 1938 1:20 PM [redacted]

D. M. LADD
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
1900 RAPHERS BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

C

CRUS BLY WILKINS COMPLAINANT PROMISE DISCONTINUE CASE CLOSED

FLETCHER

[redacted]

50-1359-

MAY 10 1938

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
GOVERNMENT RATE
CHARGE - FBI LITTLE ROCK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.
TITLE OF CASE: LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

[redacted]	5-6-38	5-24, 5-7-38	[redacted]
TYPE: PELONIS SLAVERY; ASST. WILKINS - E. WHITNAFT			[redacted]

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No evidence uncovered to indicate complaint by National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York, that thirty negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Malley, Arkansas, and worked at the point of guns, is true. [redacted] United States Attorney at Little Rock, declined prosecution, May 3, 1938.

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated November 16, 1937.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated February [illegible], 1938.

DETAILS: This investigation is predicated upon a letter received by the Attorney General from Mr. [illegible] WILKINS, Assistant Secretary of the National [illegible] for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, dated [illegible] that thirty negroes were being [illegible] Malley, Arkansas, and were [illegible]

MAY 10

[redacted]

[redacted]

the Bureau for appropriate investigation.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

These facts were discussed on May 3, 1938 with the United States Attorney, Fred A. Isgrig, at Little Rock, Arkansas, who stated that there is no indication of any violation of the Peonage Statute; that the county work farm at Helley, Arkansas was a regular detention farm for prisoners, and as long as the prisoners were formally charged and sentenced in the Court of Law they were lawfully detained; that since there was no indication that any negroes were being unlawfully detained at Helley, Arkansas, prosecution would not be authorized in this case.

ENCLOSURES

[illegible] THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, LITTLE ROCK, [illegible]

Letter dated November 22, 1937 from Brien McMahon, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. to FRED A. ISGRIG, United States Attorney, Little Rock, Arkansas.

[illegible] (Cont.)

TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, LITTLE ROCK

Photostatic copy of letter dated November 1[illegible], 1937 from ROY WILKINS, Assistant Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, New York to the Attorney General at Washington, D. C.

CLOSED

[redacted] May 16, 1938

[redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL McMANUS

Re: WILLIAM ROBINSON
ROY WILKINS - Complainant
PEONAGE

Reference is made to my memorandum of November 16, 1937, acknowledging the receipt of your memorandum dated November 13, 1937, relative to an alleged violation of the Peonage Statute at Bailey, Arkansas, reported to the Attorney General by Mr. Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York.

Please be advised that investigation of this matter has been completed by the Little Rock, Arkansas, office of this Bureau, with the result that it has been ascertained that no factual basis exists for the allegations made.

A copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 6, 1938, regarding the closing of this investigation, has already been furnished to you.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 16 1938
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Ill.	5/14/38	4/28,29/38	[redacted]

GEORGE SLEDGE, BY WILKINS - COMPLAINANT	FELONY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GEORGE A. HANKY, Chicago, informed that he had no information [redacted]

b1,b3,b4

R.U.C.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated 2/1/38.

b1,b3,b4

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

GEORGE A. HANKY, Negro Attorney, 3456 South State Street, upon interview informed that he was an attorney as well as a member of the Legress Committee for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the offices of this association being just across the hall from those of MR. HANKY. He informed that during November, 1937, upon receipt of the original complaint in this matter from [redacted] he merely relayed the information to the national headquarters of the association in New York City in the absence of the President of the association in Chicago. He stated that he furnished the national headquarters of the part of this association with a copy of the letter which [redacted]

b1,b3,b4

30-1359-7
MAY 18 1938
FBI

[redacted] was unable to locate the file on this matter and accordingly, informed Agent that he would not furnish the file or other information, thereupon suggesting an interview with [redacted] stated that in the event he found the file [redacted] a copy of the original of this letter from [redacted] he would advise the Chicago Office at that time in order that the file might be made available to an Agent.

[redacted]

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Post Office Box [illegible]
Little Rock, Arkansas
May 26, [illegible]

[redacted]
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs

Reference is made to your letter dated May 17, 1[illegible] ([illegible]), pertaining to the information contained in a letter directed by the Memphis Office to the Bureau dated May 16, 1[illegible], with respect to [redacted]

Reference is respectfully made to the cases entitled as follows:

[redacted] Passage", Little Rock Origin
[redacted], Complainant; Passage", Little Rock Origin, Bureau File [illegible]
[redacted] Passage", Little Rock Origin, Bureau File [illegible]

All of these cases reflect an initial complaint similar or identical with that contained in the letter of the Memphis Office dated May 16, 1[illegible], and it is particularly noted that that letter reflects the lawful conviction of [redacted] As indicated in the above-titled, these facts have been presented to the United States Attorney at Little Rock, Arkansas, and he has consistently advised that so long as the plantation constitutes a regular detention farm for prisoners, and so long as prisoners are lawfully charged and sentenced in a court of law, they are lawfully detained and there is no indication of violation of the Passage Statute.

[redacted]

[redacted] 5074 1359-8

[redacted]

[redacted] (b)(2)(c)

& 90-1199-1

[redacted]

November 16, 1937

90-1199

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto are copies of a letter dated November 11, 1937 received by the Attorney General from Mr. Ray Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, wherein it is stated that thirty negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Malley, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns.

(b)(2)(c) (b)

[redacted]

You are requested to conduct a discreet investigation relative to Mr. Wilkins' allegations to determine whether a violation of the Peonage Statute is involved herein.

This matter should be placed in line for prompt investigative attention, and a report should be submitted to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

[redacted]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
NOV 16 1937
U. S.

(b)(2)(c)

[redacted]

b(7)(c)

[redacted] January 5, 1938.

50-1359

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
ROY WILKINS; COMPLAINANT;
PELLAGE.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau file in the above entitled case indicates that this case is not receiving prompt investigative attention in your division.

This matter should be placed in line for early investigative attention and you should submit a report to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED 50-1359-2

INDEXED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN - 5 1938
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 1469
Little Rock, Arkansas
January 13, 1938

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
ROY WILKINS; COMPLAINANT;
FRAUD.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau communication of January 5, 1938 (50-1359), which instructs that this matter be given prompt investigative attention.

The failure to give this matter attention at an earlier date has been due to the fact that the agent to whom the case has been assigned has been unable to proceed with the investigation due to other matters which he has been handling elsewhere. This matter will be given attention at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

CLYDE FLETCHER,
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED

50-1359-3

JAN 17 1938

Post Office Box 1460
Little Rock, Arkansas
January 17, 1958

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

RE: [redacted] SUBJECTS;
[redacted], COMPLAINANT;
[redacted].

Dear Sir:

Under date of November 11, 1957, Mr. Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, 20 Fifth Avenue, New York City, addressed a communication to the Attorney General, in which he advises that thirty negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Bailey, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns. It is stated in this letter that the information has been relayed to Mr. Wilkins by way of Chicago, Illinois, and he urges an immediate investigation of this situation at Bailey.

1. For your information, several complaints have been received through the above named Association, one particularly in which I refer is a complaint made by [redacted], Memphis, Tennessee, who, on July 12, 1957, addressed a letter to the Department of Justice, in Washington, complaining of the fact that three negro boys who were residents of Memphis, had been detained at Bailey, Arkansas, on a plantation of one [redacted]. For your complete information, I am forwarding a copy of this communication, together with the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Memphis, Tennessee, September 24, 1957, entitled [redacted], which sets forth an interview with [redacted] relative to the effort that the victims, [redacted] all colored, were at that time residing in Chicago and New York City.

Special Agent [redacted], of this office, conducted investigation in connection with this matter, same being reflected in his report rendered in connection with the above mentioned case and dated [redacted], 1957, copy of which report is furnished for your information.

The matter was presented in its entirety to the United States Attorney, at Little Rock, on December 2, 1957, at which time prosecution was declined, in view of the fact that the Peonage statute, in the opinion of the United States Attorney, had not been violated.

It appears that there is a possibility that the instant complaint is based upon information which is an outgrowth of the case entitled [redacted] and it is for this reason that it

b7d

50-1359-3X

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

January 17, 1938

The matter is being referred to your office, with the request that Mr. Wilkins be interviewed and that full and complete information be obtained from him concerning the thirty persons, or at least a few of them, who are being held at Kelley, Arkansas, in order that the investigation may be brought to a logical conclusion. At the present time, appropriate inquiry is being made by agents of this office at Kelley, Arkansas, particularly of

[redacted]

(b)(6)(d)

It is further desired that you ascertain from Mr. Wilkins the source of his information, in order that the complainants may be interviewed.

Very truly yours,

CHAPMAN FLETCHER,
Special Agent in Charge.

(b)(6)(d)

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
This case originated at Little Rock, Ark. N.Y. FILE NO. 50-[illegible]

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK CITY	2/1/38	1/27,29,31/38	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
[redacted] SUBJECTS; ROY WILKINS - COMPLAINANT	PEONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Roy Wilkins, National Association for Advancement of Colored People, advised his information relative to alleged violation of Peonage Statute at Halley, Arkansas obtained from his Association's representative in Chicago and no information about persons held yet received.

R. U. C.

REFERENCE: Letter from Little Rock Office dated January 17, 1938.

DETAILS: AT NEW YORK CITY

ROY WILKINS, (colored), Assistant Secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, was interviewed by the writer relative to the communication addressed to the Attorney General under date of November 11, 1937, in which he advised that thirty Negroes were being held, virtually as slaves, in a stockade at Halley, Arkansas, and are being worked at the point of guns. Wilkins indicated in his letter that the information had been relayed to him by way of Chicago, Ill.

[signature] Special Agent in Charge

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

50-13571-4

FEB 7 1938

FEB - 1 A.M.

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
3 - Detroit
3 - Little Rock
2 - Chicago
2 - New York

[illegible]

At the time of the writer's interview with Mr. Wilkins, he stated that the only information he had relative to the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute at Halley, Arkansas, was contained in a telegram addressed to Attorney CHARLES E. HOUSTON, of the Association, at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, from GEORGE A. BLAKEY, the Chicago representative of the Association. He exhibited the telegram to the writer which is being set forth at this point for ready reference:

November 10, 1937

Attorney Charles E. Houston,
69 Fifth Avenue
New York City

[redacted] TOGETHER WITH THIRTY OTHER NEGROES SOLD AND HELD SLAVES IN STOCKADE AT HALLEY ARKANSAS FORCED AT POINT OF GUNS HAVE FEDERAL OFFICERS INVESTIGATE AT ONCE EXTREME CAUTION OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO PROTECT PRISONERS LIVES [redacted] b(7)(c); b)

(signed) George A. Blakey
Chicago Branch N.A.A.C.P.,
Room 215, 345 State St.,
Chicago, Ill. "

As indicated in the above mentioned communication to the Attorney General, Wilkins stated that he had no information as to the names of the negroes allegedly held in peonage aside from the [redacted] mentioned in the telegram, and he suggested that agents of the Bureau interview George A. Blakey at Chicago, Illinois for more detailed information. b(7)(c)

He indicated at this time that he had no information about the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute involving negroes name[redacted] from Memphis, Tenn., in Desha County at Mellwood, Arkansas [illegible] 1937, as reflected in the reports of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Little Rock, Arkansas, dated December 1, 1937, and Special Agent [redacted], dated at Memphis, Tenn., September 24, 1937.

[redacted] b)(7)(c)

SC-3.

b)(3)(c) (0)

[redacted]

who is being, or has been, interviewed by agents of the Little Rock Office at [redacted] with reference to this matter.

UNEXPLOITED LEADS:

CHICAGO OFFICE:

At Chicago, Ill. - Will interview GEORGE A. HAMMY, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Room 213, 348 South State Street, for detailed information relative to the alleged violation of the Peonage Statute, as contained in his telegram to the New York office of the Association, dated November 10, 1937, as set out in the body of this report.

The names and addresses of the Negroes allegedly held, together with the details surrounding their arrest, should be obtained.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

March 1, 1938

[redacted] (b)(3)(c)

50-1359

Special Agent in Charge,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
ROY BILKINS - COMPLAINANT;
FRO MAGE.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau file in the above entitled case indicates that this case is not receiving prompt investigative attention in your division.

This matter should be placed in line for early investigative attention and you should submit a report to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

MAR - 1 1938

50-1359-5
MAR 1 1938

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

DOMESTIC		FOREIGN	
TELEGRAM		FULL RATE CABLE	
DAY LETTER		DEFERRED CABLE	
NIGHT MESSAGE			
NIGHT LETTER		NIGHT CABLE LETTER	
SHIP RADIOGRAM		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

PATRONS SHOULD CHECK CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED OTHERWISE THEIR MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE LANGUAGE COMMUNICATION

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Mackay Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

FBI LITTLE ROCK, ARK. MAY 7, 1938 1:20 PM [redacted] b3 b6 b7c

D. M. LADD
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
1900 BANKERS BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

UNSUB RAY WILKINS COMPLAINANT PEONAGE DISCONTINUE CASE CLOSED

FLETCHER

[redacted] b3 b6 b7c

[redacted] b4 b7c

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
GOVERNMENT RATE
CHARGE - FBI LITTLE ROCK

FOR PURPOSE

50-1337-

MAY 10 1938 A.M.

FBI - JUSTICE

CONTROL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT: LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	5-6-38	4-28, 5-3-38	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
THOMAS SIMPKINS; ET AL; WILKINS - C. CLAIMANT	PEONAGE

(b)(3)(E)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: No evidence uncovered to indicate complaint by National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York, that thirty negroes are being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Kelley, Arkansas, and worked at the point of [illegible], is true. [redacted] United States Attorney at Little Rock, declined prosecution, May 2, 1938.

(b)(3)(D), (b)

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated November 16, 1937.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated February [illegible], 1938.

(b)(3)(C)

ENCLOSURES: This investigation is predicated upon a letter received by the Attorney General from Mr. [illegible] WILKINS, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, dated November 11, 1937, in which it was stated that thirty negroes were being held virtually as slaves in a stockade at Kelley, Arkansas, and were

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

60-11359 + -6

MAY 10 [illegible]

[illegible] New York City

[illegible] Little Rock (2 [illegible])

[illegible] Little Rock (2 unclassified)

[illegible] Little Rock

MAY 12 1938

being worked at the point of [redacted]

[redacted] This letter was referred by the Attorney General to the Bureau for appropriate investigation.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

[redacted]

These facts were discussed on May 3, 1938 with the United States Attorney, Fred A. Isgrig, at Little Rock, Arkansas, who stated that there is no indication of any violation of the Peonage Statute; that the county work farm at Halley, Arkansas was a regular detention farm for prisoners, and as long as the prisoners were formally charged and sentenced in the Court of Law they were lawfully detained; that since there was no indication that any negroes were being unlawfully detained at Halley, Arkansas, prosecution would not be authorized in this case.

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, LITTLE ROCK:

Letter dated November 22, 1937 from Ethen McMahon, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. to FRED A. ISGRIG, United States Attorney, Little Rock, Arkansas.

ENCLOSURES: (Cont.)

TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, LITTLE ROCK:

Photostatic copy of letter dated November 11, 1937 from ROY WILKINS, Assistant Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, New York to the Attorney General at Washington, D. C.

CLOSED

[redacted] b6 b7c

50-1357-6

May 16, 1938

[redacted] b7c

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL McMAHON

Re: WHITCOMB SUBJECTS
ROY WILKINS - Complainant
PEONAGE

Reference is made to my memorandum of November 16, 1937, acknowledging the receipt of your memorandum dated November 13, 1937, relative to an alleged violation of the Peonage Statute at Bailey, Arkansas, reported to the Attorney General by Mr. Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York.

Please be advised that investigation of this matter has been completed by the Little Rock, Arkansas, office of this Bureau, with the result that it has been ascertained that no factual basis exists for the allegations made.

A copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 6, 1938, reporting the closing of this investigation, has already been furnished to you.

b6 b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAIL ROOM
MAY 16 1938
P. M.

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS FILE NO. 50-5

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Ill.	5/16/38	4/22,28/38	[redacted] b)(6)(c) [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
ROBERT SUBJECT; ROY WILKINS - COMPLAINANT	PROBATE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GEORGE A. BLAKEY, Chicago, informed had no information [redacted] b)(6)(c),(b)

R.U.C.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b)(6)(c) New York City, dated 2/1/38.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

GEORGE A. BLAKEY, Negro Attorney, 3456 South State Street, upon interview informed that he was an attorney as well as a member of the Express Committee for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the offices of this association being just across the hall from those of MR. BLAKEY. He informed that during November, 1937, upon receipt of the original complaint in this matter from [redacted] he merely relayed the information to the national headquarters of the association at New York City in the absence of the President of the association at Chicago. He stated that he furnished the national headquarters of New York of this association with a copy of the original letter which [redacted] b)(5)(c),(d)

50-1359-7

MAY 18 1938

Bureau - 3
Little Rock - 3
Chicago - 2

[redacted] b)(6)(c)

MAY 18 A.M.

[redacted] BLAKEY was unable to locate the file on this matter, and, accordingly, informed Agent that he could not furnish him with any other information, thereupon suggesting an interview with [redacted] BLAKEY stated that in the event he found his file [redacted] a copy of the original of this letter fro[redacted] he would advise the Chicago Office of this [redacted] in order that the file might be made available to an Agent.

[redacted]

RETURNED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Post Office Box 1680
Little Rock, Arkansas
May 30, 1958

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated May 27, 1958 (50-1359), pertaining to the information contained in a letter directed by the Memphis Office to the Bureau dated May 16, 1958, with respect to [redacted] b(1)(c)

Reference is respectfully made to the cases entitled as follows:

[redacted] Peonage", Little Rock Origin
[redacted] Peonage", Little Rock Origin, Bureau File 50-1359
[redacted] Peonage", Little Rock Origin, Bureau File 50-1359

b(1)(c)

All of these cases reflect an initial complaint similar or identical with that contained in the letter of the Memphis Office dated May 16, 1958, and it is particularly noted that that letter reflects the lawful conviction of [redacted] As indicated in the above files, these facts have been presented to the United States Attorney at Little Rock, Arkansas, and he has consistently advised that so long as the plantation constitutes a regular detention farm for prisoners, and so long as prisoners are lawfully charged and sentenced in a court of law, they are lawfully detained and there is no indication of violation of the Peonage Statute.

It is noted that in the case entitled "[redacted] the plaintiff court was operated by [redacted] is a [redacted] detention farm for St. Francis, Cross and Woodruff Counties, and [redacted], Arkansas, the point of the alleged offense, is located in [redacted] County, Arkansas.

REFERENCE 50-1359-8

It is respectfully requested that this office and the Memphis Office be advised whether an investigation is desired in view of the fact that the United States Attorney's office holds that these facts, as indicated, do not constitute a violation of the Peonage Statute.

Very truly yours,

b(1)(c)

[redacted]

R. H. Fletcher,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - Memphis

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Section 9: Roy Wilkins

Does not exist.